

PESTICIDE EPISODE 15-DAY REPORT

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AMENDED? ☐ YES ☒ NO

DEPARTMENT OF PESTICIDE REGULATION

ENFORCEMENT BRANCH

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PRIORITY EPISODE NUMBER	DATE OF OCCURRENCE	NOTIFICATION DATE	PRIORITY EPISODE 15-DAY REPORT DUE DATE
47-MON-14	6-20-14	7-18-14	8-4-14

SUMMARY OF THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE EPISODE (*County Agricultural Commissioner's initial findings*):

Monterey County Agricultural Commissioner's Office (CAC) received a complaint from California Rural Legal Assistance (CRLA) on July 9, 2014, concerning two field workers who were allegedly exposed to pesticides and received medical attention. During the investigation, Monterey CAC found that three more field workers from the same crew also complained of symptoms and received medical attention.

The alleged exposure occurred on June 20, 2014 around 0550 hours, when a helicopter pesticide application was being made by licensed pest control business, [REDACTED]. The fungicide application was in a field adjacent to the lettuce field where 18 field workers had arrived to start their work day of thinning/weeding. Five field workers complained of illness symptoms and were taken to Pinnacle Heath Care Services in Salinas, California for medical attention the same day.

UPDATE: Eighteen field workers were interviewed by Monterey CAC. The distance from the helicopter application varied for the field workers, some were within twenty feet of the application and others were 300 feet away. Seven employees stated they experienced pesticide illness symptoms. Six informed their foreman and four were taken to receive medical care including the non-symptomatic foreman. Investigative samples were not collected, due to the clothing being discarded. All pertinent parties have been interviewed. The Monterey CAC is continuing its investigation.

SUSPECTED VIOLATIONS (*Include brief description*):

FAC 12973-Use Conflict With Label
3CCR 6614-Protection of Persons, Animals, and Property

PRIORITY EPISODE INVESTIGATION REPORT PROJECTED COMPLETION DATE: 11-8-14

DPR ROUTING:

Andrews, Benson, Coleman, Everett, Fadipe, Farnsworth, Francone, Frenkel, Guerra, Hughes, Jetter, Lee, Lopez, Marade, Motakef, Oriol, Richmond, Ross, Sarracino, Shattuck, Verder-Carlos, Yanga

AGENCY NOTIFICATION

U.S.EPA: Ms. Fabiola Estrada

OTHER: Mr. Eric Lauritzen, CAC

REPORT PREPARED BY (*Please print*):

Brandi M. Martin, Environmental Scientist-CRO

TELEPHONE NUMBER (*Incl. Area Code*)

559-243-8114

DATE SENT: 9-24-14